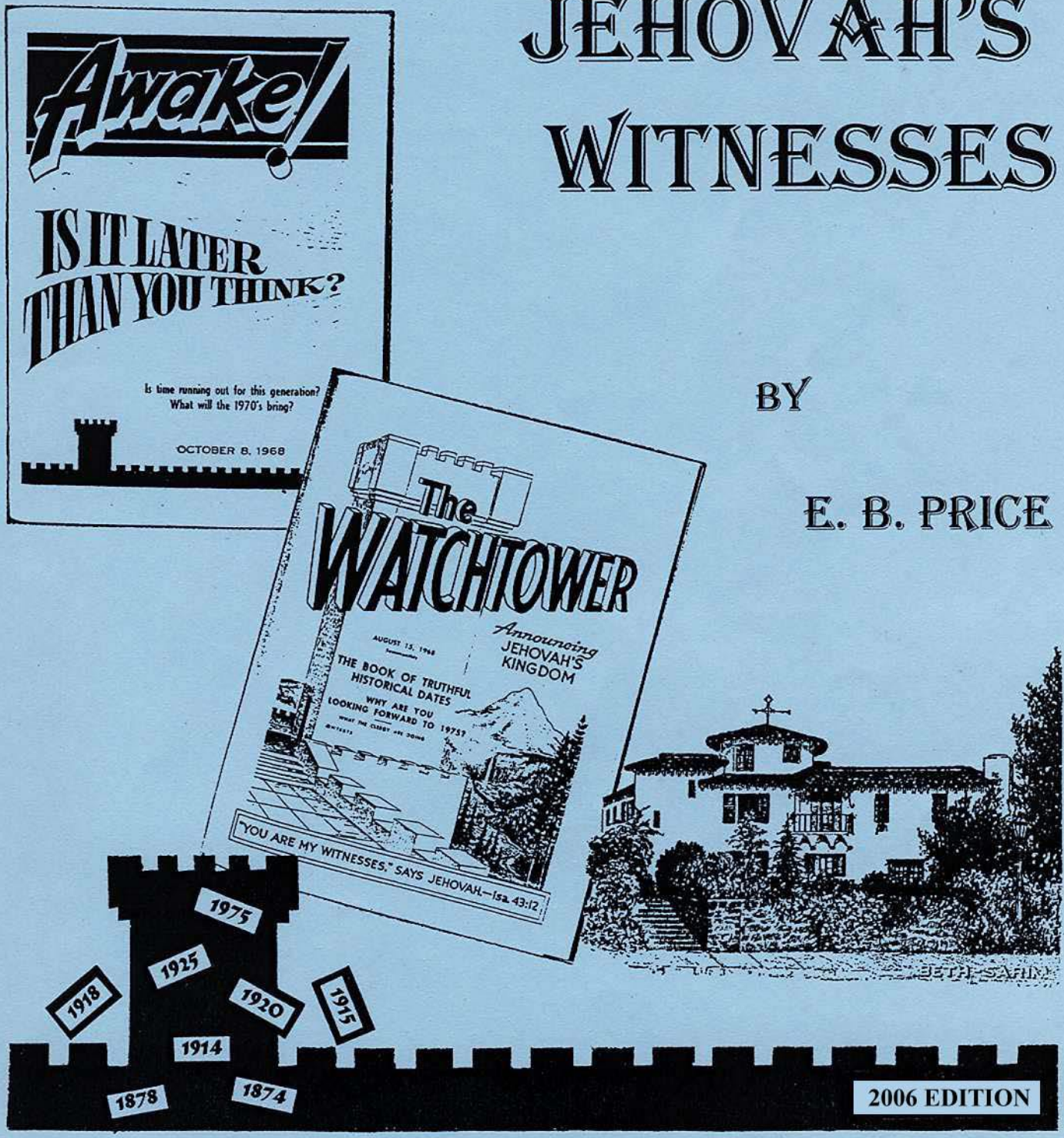
OUR FRIENDS:

THE JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES



BY

E. B. PRICE

2006 EDITION

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Our Friends: The Jehovah's Witnesses

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In the late 1920's one of Jehovah's Witnesses, (then known as International Bible Students) called on my mother and began to share with her the teachings of the Watchtower Society. My mother was deeply impressed with the sincerity and zeal of this lady, but as time went by doubts began to grow concerning this organization.

The magazines and books which the Society published during the past fifty years had many false prophecies, contradictory doctrines, altered and even bizarre teachings.

The Society's prophecies concerning 1914, 1918, 1920, and 1925 had all failed to take place. (Years later the 1975 prophecy would be another to add to the list!)

The Society taught that Christ'sReturn took place in 1874 then thedate was altered to 1914. The Resurrection which was taught to have taken place in 1878, had then to be changed to 1918. The 1874 and 1878 dates had all been "proved" by the "*pyramid prophecies*". To accommodate the new dates theSociety changed the dimensions of theGreat pyramid by adding to itspassages an extra forty inches in thelater editions of its books!

It had prophesied that in 1925 theKingdom would be set up on the earthand Abraham, Isaac and Jacob etc.would be resurrected to administer it. The mansion "Beth Sarim" was builtin California for them to occupy eventhough the book *The Way to Paradise*p. 225 had described how Abrahamwould live and operate in Jerusalem!

Finally my mother read in thebook, *Reconciliation* page 14 that thethrone of Jehovah God was on one ofthe stars of the Pleiades, in the MilkyWay. She then knew that she wouldhave to look elsewhere to find truth.

When a Seventh-day Adventist called at her door she began a series of Bible studies with them. Soon sherealized that at last she had found the Bible truth for which she had been searching. She accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized. For the rest of her life she worked zealously to share with family and friends Bible truth. She had no doubt that the Adventists were the people described in the last days just before Christ's Return: *"...here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.*" Revelation 14:12.

Although my mother never joined the Jehovah's Witnesses, she never lost her love and concern for them. From a small child she instilled in mea burden to work with pen and voice for these sincere and zealous people.

It has been my joy to personally witness the baptism of well over 200 of these people who have found salvation in Jesus Christ and become very happy and dedicated Seventh-day Adventists.

The above quotations from their own publications urge their people to examine what they believe and find the truth.

My prayer is that this publication can be used to this end.

E. B. Price
March, 2005
Queensland, Australia

THE PEOPLE

Jehovah's Witnesses are among the most hard working and sincere of all professed Christians. They are also very knowledgeable of their teachings and interpretations of the Bible which they actively share.

OUR CHALLENGE

To every Seventh-day Adventist there is a special challenge to help these people because they are perishing with Bibles in their hands!

Nearly all Jehovah's Witnesses today believe that they should not be "born again". (With their present membership around 6,000,000, less than 9,000 claim to be "born again".) This means they do not partake of the emblems of the bread and wine at their Memorial service each year.

However the Bible teaches in John 3:3,5 that if a person is not "born again" they can not enter into God's kingdom (whether it is in heaven or on the earth!).

Furthermore, if one does not *"eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood"* John 6:54 they will not be resurrected and/or have everlasting life.

Theirs is a serious plight. We must help them!

THE WATCHTOWER SOCIETY

The Watchtower Society of Jehovah's Witnesses has had a very unfortunate history. From its very beginning it has been strewn with false prophecies, doctrines and teachings which have been repeatedly altered and changed.

Some teachings have cost the lives of their members. For instance: Vaccinations were forbidden for over twenty years, and many died. When that was allowed, blood transfusions were then forbidden. Many still die each year because of this.

Yet despite all this, Jehovah's Witnesses have an almost unshakable loyalty to their Society, and believe that it is God's only and true channel of Truth for these last days.

DIFFICULTIES

Jehovah's Witnesses are now urged not to read any publications but their own. After r M1972Mdd M

Chapter 3

The History of the Watchtower Society

***1874.** Pastor Russell and his group of Bible Students are disappointed when Christ did not return as expected. (False Prophecies: *_____)

***1878.** They are again disappointed when the Resurrection does not take place but then teach that both events did take place - but were **invisible**.

1879. ***Zion's Watchtower and Herald of Christ's Presence*** commenced to teach these new found 'truths'.

1886. First volume of the ***Millennial Dawn*** series published. Later called ***Studies in the Scriptures.***



***1914.** Armageddon and the End of the World does not take place nor any of the other events as foretold.

***1915.** Abraham, Isaac and Jacob etc. are not resurrected as predicted.

1916. Pastor Russell dies and is succeeded as president by Judge J.F. Rutherford.

1917. ***The Finished Mystery*** confirms the *1874 and *1878 dates. It foretells the *1918, *1920 and *1925 dates.

***1918.** Christendom and its churches were not destroyed as foretold.

***1920**. The republics did not disappear as had been foretold.



Millions Now Living Will Never Die, foretells the resurrection in * 1925 of Abraham and the Princes of old.

1924. The ***Way to Paradise*** foretells how after* 1925 people can call up Abraham in Jerusalem and apply to have their loved ones resurrected.

***1925.** None of the foretold events come to pass.

1928. The pyramid prophecies condemned (During the decade well over 100 teachings of "truth" have been discarded or altered.)

1929. ***Beth Sarim*** *is* built.

1931. The name ***Jehovah's Witnesses*** *adopted.*

1935. Vaccinations condemned.

1942. Rutherford dies in *Beth Sarirn.* N. H. Knorr becomes president.

1945. Blood transfusions begin to be condemned.

1950.

THE NEW WORLD BIBLE

The first edition of the ***New World Translation of the Christian Greek Scriptures*** appeared in 1950. It was the work of their own Translation Committee. Only one, Fred Franz, had sufficient knowledge of the Bible languages to attempt a translation of this kind. He had studied Greek for two years but was only self taught in Hebrew.

They used the master Greek text of Westcott and Hort which is based on only 5% of the manuscripts which included the Vaticanus and Sinaticus. These two corrupted manuscripts commissioned by Constantine leave out thousands of words and whole clauses. They contained the Aprocrapha which supports prayers for the dead.

Westcott and Hort did not believe in teachings such as Creation, Heaven, the Second Coming, miracles or inviting people to receive Christ as Savior.

On the other hand they believed in Mary worship, prayers for the dead, purgatory, communism, in contacting demons, and decided between variant readings on the basis of their "inner consciousness".

The ***New World Bible*** *is* described as a "biased" translation.

1952. Vaccinations are now allowed, but not blood transfusions.

1966. Baptisms are at an all time low so the new date of *1975 is set for the End.

1967. Organ transplants are termed "*cannibalism"* and forbidden.

1969. ***The Kingdom Interlinear Translation of the Greek Scriptures***. It reveals many contradictions and errors in the *New World Bible.*

1972. April 1, *Watchtower,* claims the Watchtower Society is Jehovah's Prophet.

1975.** *"The wicked world's* ***end" does not come as expected.

1977. N. H. Knorr dies after witnessing the devastating effect of the *1975 date failure. He is succeeded by Frederick W. Franz.

1978. The Society suffers a -1.4% membership loss as a result of *1975.

1980. Organ transplants allowed.

1983. Raymond Franz writes ***Crisis of Conscience***. It destroys faith in the organization, as it reveals many 'inside' problems and errors.

THE 1914 GENERATION

For many years the Watchtower Society taught Armageddon would occur within a generation of 1914. The following illustration was often used in its publications:



1984. *The Watchtower,* May 15 has an article, **1914 - The *Generation That Will Not Pass Away.*** It is still teaching that the End will come within a generation from 1914.

1989. ***You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth*** (1989 ed.) page 154, has this illustration:



1995 The **1914** ***Generation*** are now over 80 years of age. The Biblical "lifetime" - (not merely "generation") of *"threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years..."* (Psalms 90:10) had now been exceeded. Again the Society is in trouble. So in *The Watchtower,* November 1, page 17, it announced: *"... the term 'generation' as used by Jesus refers principally to contemporary people of a certain historical period..."*

1996. With this new "truth" the urgency of the generation limitation was gone and worldwide service hours dropped this year by 10 million.

2001. Membership increase only 1.7%. Service figures the lowest in years.

2002. Many European countries reporting losses.

2003. Only 258,845 baptised. This is the lowest figure for 15 years.

DATE SETTING

One of the outstanding features of the Watchtower Society from its inception, has been its date-setting. The failure of these dates has been the cause of much anguish to its people, and huge losses in membership.

ADVENTISTS & DATE-SETTING

After the disappointment of 1844, there was an Adventist group called *Second Adventists* which continued to set dates for Christ's Return. In 1868 Pastor Russell became associated with them and they set the date 1874. This was the beginning of the Watchtower Society.

By contrast in 1863 the *Seventh-day Adventist* church was organized and took a strong stand (which they have maintained) against date setting.

Jesus warned that

Chapter 7

The 1975 Date

THE 1975 DATE

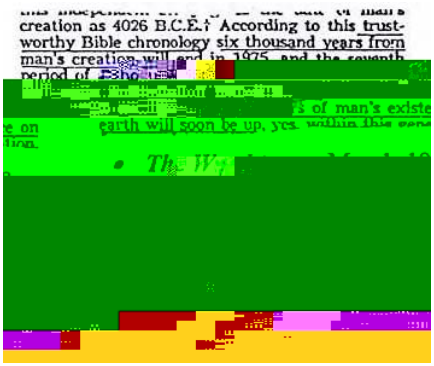
Expecting the End to come in 1975 caused the greatest increases in membership that the Watchtower Society had ever known. When the time passed, the resultant disappointment caused its greatest losses. How and why did it happen?

WHY WAS THE DATE SET?

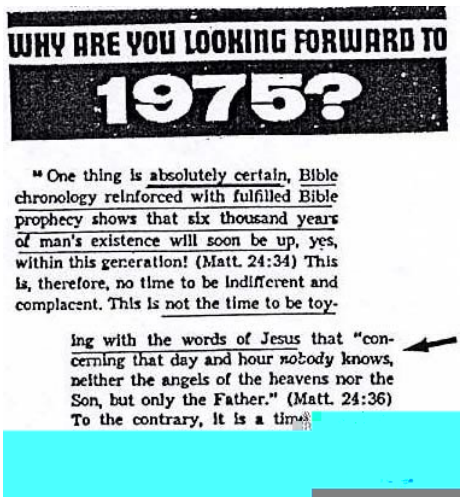
In 1959 the Society had enjoyed a membership increase of 12%. But it then began to rapidly decline. In 1966 it reached 2.4%, and it was in that year the decision was made to set the 1975 date for the End. This resulted in an immediate increase in activity and by 1974 the membership increase was 13.5%. It had worked!

HOW WAS THE DATE SET?

Life Everlasting - In Freedom of the sons of God,(1966)p.29:


creation as 4026 B.C.E.? According to this trustworthy Bible chronology six thousand years from man's creation will ... and in 1975 ... the seventh period of ... of man's existe... earth will soon be up, yes, within this ...

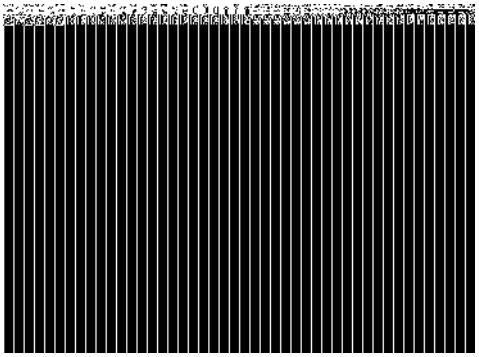
The Watchtower, Aug. 15, 1968 pp.494-501:


WHY ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO 1975?

"One thing is absolutely certain, Bible chronology reinforced with fulfilled Bible prophecy shows that six thousand years of man's existence will soon be up, yes, within this generation! (Matt. 24:34) This is, therefore, no time to be indifferent and complacent. This is not the time to be toying with the words of Jesus that "concerning that day and hour *nobody* knows, neither the angels of the heavens nor the Son, but only the Father." (Matt. 24:36) To the contrary, it is a time

In this article the Watchtower Society were so sure that they knew the End was coming in 1975, that they told their people this is **not the time to be toying with the words of Jesus** that "*concerning that day and hour nobody knows*." The nobody is in italics because they were sure that they did know!

Awake, October 8, 1968, pp.13-16



THE "WICKED WORLD'S END"

Throughout the Society in their publications and talks excitement mounted for 1975. Many gave up their jobs, sold their homes and went into full time pioneering for the "few years that remained".

The ***Kingdom Ministry***, May 1974, even commended those who had sold up their homes etc.:

*"Reports are heard of brothers selling their homes and property and planning to finish out the rest of their days in this old system in the pioneer service. Certainly this is a fine way to spend the **short time remaining** before the **wicked world's end**".*

THE 1975 DATE FAILS!

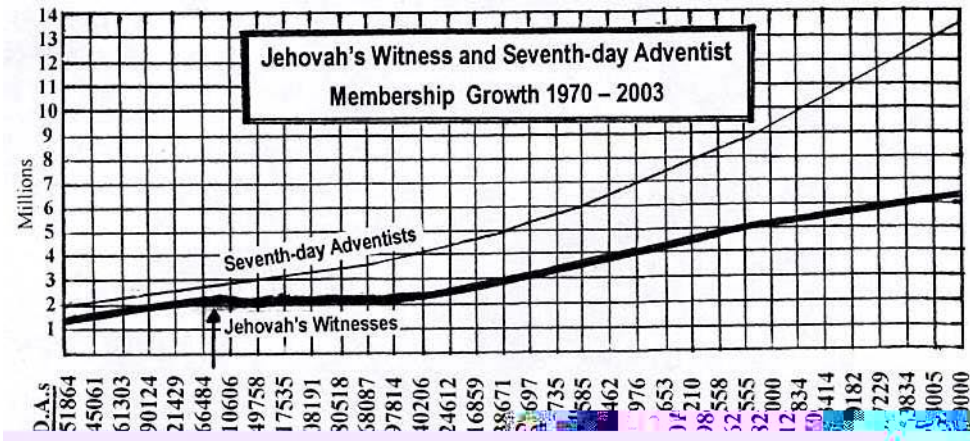
In 1977 and 1978 the full impact of the date failure hit the Society. In those years there was a worldwide membership loss of -1% and -1.4%. Hundreds of thousands left the Society, and its effects are still being felt.

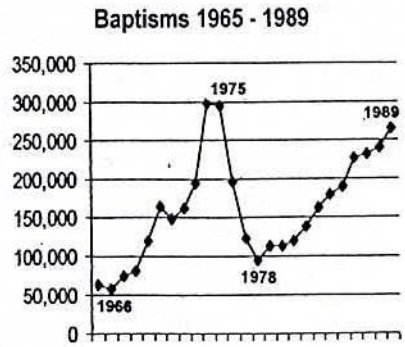
APOLOGIES

Thousands of Witnesses were without homes, employment, and even an education after 1975 passed. At first the Society blamed the people for "expecting too much". But eventually some reluctant apologies were made in the ***1980 Yearbook***, pp. 30-31 and ***Watchtower***, March 15, 1980, p. 17.

Gains and Losses Caused by 1975

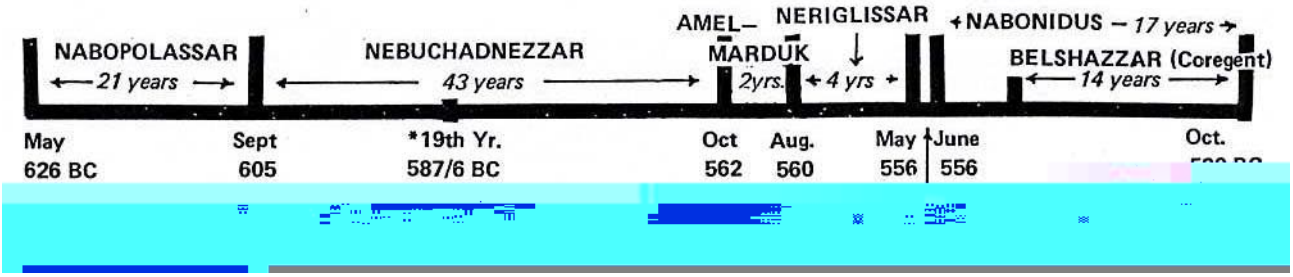
For a number of years prior to 1975, Witnesses and Adventists enjoyed about the same growth rate. However, due to the 1975 date failure, the Witnesses went backwards for a time in membership, and they have never recovered. Their membership should now be well over 10 million.

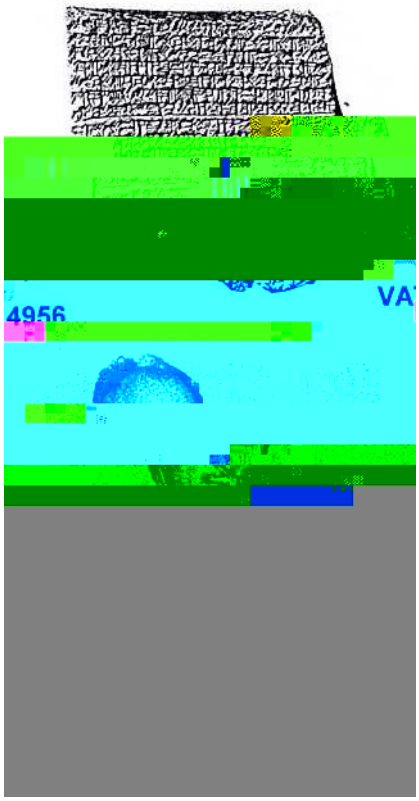


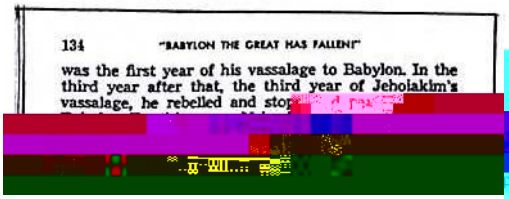


LATEST STATISTICS

The Chronology of the Babylonian Kings:






134 "BABYLON THE GREAT HAS FALLEN!"

was the first year of his vassalage to Babylon. In the third year after that, the third year of Jehoiakim's vassalage, he rebelled and sto

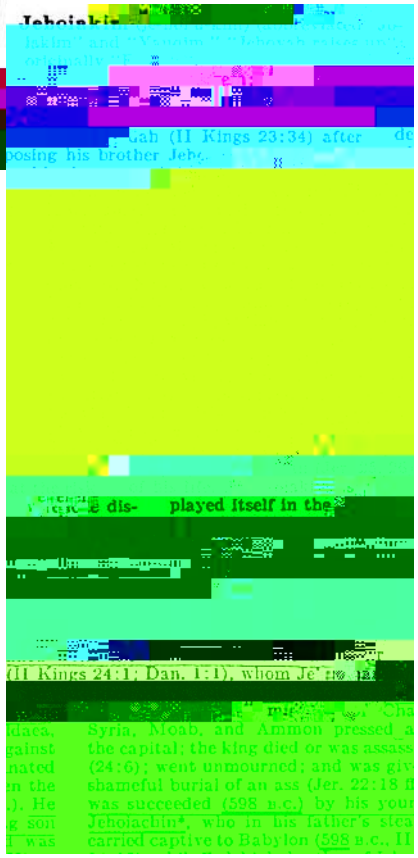
Note how the date **618 B. C.** does not occur in this dictionary under "Jehoiakim". Not one of the dates given support the chronology of the Watchtower Society!

The archaeological tablet VAT 4956 is an astronomical diary. It records on both the front and the back of the tablet the observations of the moon and planets during the entire 37th regnal year of Nebuchadnezzar.

There are about thirty observations which are described in such detail that modern astronomers can easily fix the exact year when they were originally made.

All the observations of the moon and five planets, could only have occurred in the year 568/567 B. C. and will not occur again in the same sequence for another 40,000 years!

The VAT 4956 tablet clearly establishes that the 37th regnal year of Nebuchadnezzar was 568/7 B. C., and that the time when he destroyed Jerusalem in his 19th regnal year was 586/587 B. C. and not 607 B. C. E. as taught by the Watchtower Society.



The author, E.B. Price, holding the VAT 4956 tablet in the East Berlin Museum. He is pointing to the name of Nebuchadnezzar, on the top of the tablet which can be very clearly read by those able to read the cuneiform writing.

THE FIRST DATE: 1874

For over fifty years the Watchtower Society taught that Christ's Second Coming or Return took place in 1874.

The Finished Mystery pp. 53,54 tells how Charles Taze Russell in 1868 began to meet with a *"handful of Bible students"* in Allegheny, Pa., They believed that Christ was returning **visibly** in 1874.

He then explains how, "*not long after their 1874 disappointment*" they were shown how the Greek word in Matthew 24:27,37,39 for "*coming*" was "***parousia***" which could also be translated "*presence*".

"*This was the clue*" he records that led them to conclude that Christ had come in 1874 but it was **invisible**!

From this time forward the Society has taught that Christ's Return is ***past*** and ***invisible***.

This meant that the Resurrection was also ***past*** and ***invisible***. (This was one of the heresies in the early Christian church. See 2 Timothy 2:18)

HERALDING THE "PRESENCE"

Pastor Russell believed God had raised him up to teach this truth, and this was the beginning and the reason for the existence of the Watchtower Society.

He then began to print a paper, "Zion's Watchtower and Herald of Christ's Presence." Today it is just called "***The Watchtower***".

However, no longer does the Society teach the 1874 date. After the "*wise and discreet*" slave taught it for fifty years, they acknowledged it was in error and phased it out.

THE 1914 DATE

As late as 1929 the Society was still teaching the 1874 date. The book ***Prophecy*** (1929) pp.65-66:

*"The Scriptural proof is that the second presence of the Lord Jesus Christ began in **1874 A.D.** This proof is specifically set out in the booklet entitled **Our Lord's Return**".*

Problem! In 1929, fifteen years after 1914 the Society had still failed to ***see*** with its "*spiritual*" eyes that Christ had returned in 1914!

THE 1914 TEACHING TODAY

In 1958, ***From Paradise Lost to Paradise Regained***, p. 200:

"*The King arrived in His glory A.D. 1914.* "

Finding this teaching difficult to uphold, the Society has found it necessary to alter its emphasis to Christ "*turning His attention*" towards the earth. In ***You Can Live Forever in Paradise on Earth*** (1989 ed.) p. 147:

"*Christ's return ... means that he takes Kingdom power towards this earth and **turns his attention** to it...*"

Two other teachings connected with Christ's return have also been changed recently:

a. *The 1914 Generation*. It is no longer taught they will see the End.

b. The Separating of the Sheep and the Goats. No longer is this the work of the "*spiritual brothers*".

THE SIGNS - Is He Here or Near?

The Society teaches that the signs of Christ's return show he is present here with us now.

However the Bible teaches the signs show Christ's return is **near**:

1. Matthew 24:32 (NW) "*when You see all these things, know that he is **near** at the doors."*
2. Verses 42,44 warn that one needs to be ***ready*** because they do not know when he will (future) arrive.
3. Jesus warned in verses 23,24 that in the last days there would ***be false prophets*** saying Christ was ***here***?

The Watchtower Society fulfils this prophetic warning:

- claiming it is a ***prophet***.
- admitting its ***false*** prophecies.
- teaching Christ is ***here***!

CHRIST HAS NOT YET COME

Jesus Christ did not return in either 1874 or 1914 because:

1. He will be seen:

1 John 3:2 "*we shall **see** him*"
Rev. 1: 7 "*every eye will **see** him*"
Matt. 24:30 "*they will see the Son of man coming on the clouds with power and great glory*." The "*they*" are the wicked who do not have eyes of "*spiritual understanding*".

Christ will be ***visibly*** seen coming in power and great glory!

2. The "Dead in Christ" are Raised and caught up "*together* with..."

This is an enormous problem for the Society and one it can not answer:

I Thessalonians 4:16-17 tells how the "***dead in Christ***" are raised first at his "parousia" and those ***living*** are "*caught away*" "***together with them***" to "*meet the Lord in the air*".

In 1914/1918 all those ***living*** of the *heavenly class* of the Society were not "*caught away*" then!

3. The Wicked were not Destroyed.

2 Thessalonians 2:8 says the wicked are destroyed at his coming/**parousia**.
See also Luke 17:26-30.

4. Memorial Service.

1 Corinthians 11:26.(NW) It is to be celebrated only "***until he arrives***."

5. Rewards given at His Coming.

CHRIST’ T RIST

SALVATION

The most serious errors of the Watchtower Society's teachings are those dealing with Salvation.

The vast majority of Jehovah's Witnesses are "*perishing with Bibles in their hands*" because the Society teaches:

TWO CLASSES

1. The Heavenly / 144,000 class

These are ***born-again*** Christians, who go to heaven as *spirits* when they die. In 2004 they numbered **8,570**.

2. The Earthly / "Great Crowd"

These people are **not** *born-again*. They do **not** partake of the *emblems of the Lord's Supper*. They hope to survive Armageddon and then live on the earth in fleshly bodies.

In 2004 there were **6,299,771** (the remainder of the 6,308,341 publishers reported for the year.)

DANGEROUS DOCTRINE

This means that in 2001, over 5.5 million Jehovah's Witnesses had no hope of salvation! Yet their own Bibles warn them:

1. Born Again.

John 3:3(NW) "*Unless anyone is **born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God.*"

Whether it is the kingdom of God in heaven or on earth, they *cannot see* it! They are lost!

2. Emblems of the Lord's Supper.

John 6: 53,54 "*Unless YOU eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood You have **no life** in yourselves. He that feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has **everlasting life**, and I shall **resurrect** him at the last day*."

These people who do not partake have no *everlasting life* and no *resurrection*. Again they are lost!

SALVATION IN JESUS CHRIST

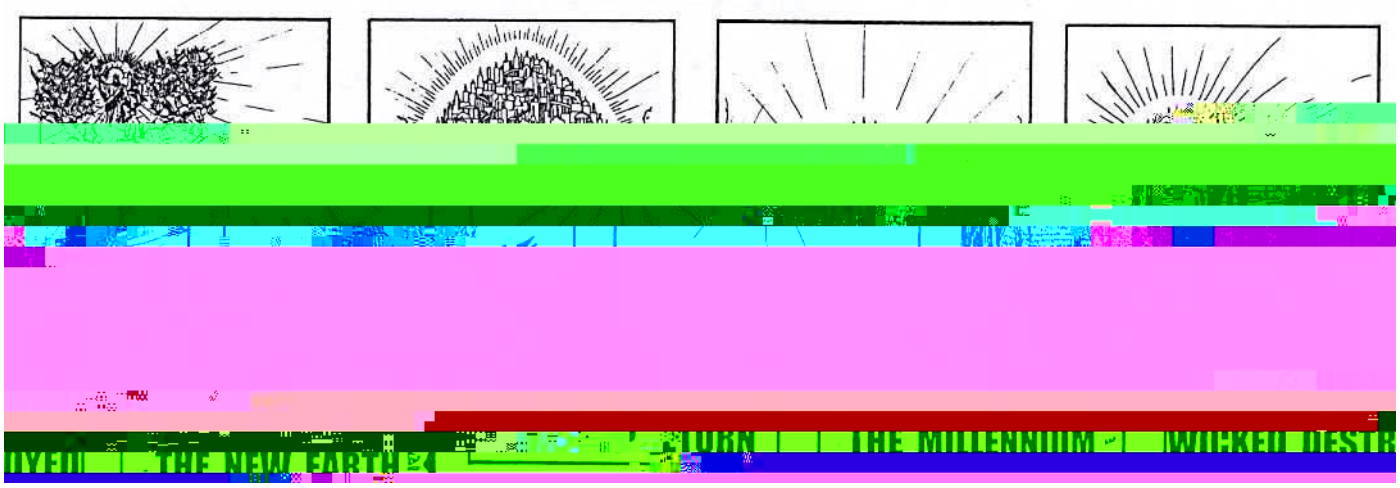
Salvation is only in Jesus:

Acts 4:12(NW) "

Chapter 14

The Millennium (Thousand Years)

In this presentation, pictures, illustrations or charts are ***essential*** in portraying the events from the Second Coming of Christ at Armageddon, through the period of the 1,000 years until the Kingdom of God is finally established on the New Earth. NB. *These illustrations can be used effectively by enlarging on a photocopier. Then colour and mount them on cardboard.*



AT THE BEGINNING

a. I 1*))?=.
Revelation 16:14-16 Christ comes at Armageddon "*as a thief*". It is the 6th of the Seven Last Plagues.
b. 2I3JLJ I*LNI=
(See chapters 9 - 11)
c. T3 9*))*JLI?V*)
Luke 17:26-30. The wicked are "***all destroyed***" as in the Flood and at Sodom.
2 Thess. 2:8 Destroyed by the *epiphaneia* = brightness of Christ's "***parousia***".
d. 03IJL I*JNII* L3?=
I Thess. 4:16. The *dead in Christ* are raised. These are **all** those who **believed in Him**, see John 6:40.
Men of old like Abraham and Isaac etc. are included.
(See Chapter 13)
c. J S*) L 9*= L? 2* S*=
1 **Thess. 4:16-17.** The saved who are resurrected and those living are together caught away in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.
Both the "***great crowd***" and the ***144,000 heavenly class*** are taken to heaven.
Summary:
- All the **saved:**

Are now ***living*** - in ***heaven***.
- All the **wicked**:

Are now ***dead*** - on ***earth***.

DURING THE 1000 YRS

a. L2* * IL2 3J)*J?: L*
Isa. 24:1 (KJV) "*Behold, the Lord maketh the earth* ***empty***."
Jer. 4:23 (KJV) "*I beheld* ***the earth****, and lo, it was without form and void ("****empty and waste****" NW) ... and, lo, there was* ***no man*** *... the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the* ***presence of the Lord****, and by* ***his fierce anger***."
The above describes what the earth becomes as a result of *Armageddon ("****his fierce anger****")* and the "***presence***" or *Return of Christ*.
b. T3 9*))*) ?= * IL2
Jer.25:33 (NW) "*those* ***slain*** *by Jehovah ... from one end of the* ***earth clear to the other end of the earth****. They will not be* ***bewailed****, neither will they be* ***gathered up*** *or be* ***buried***". There is ***no man*** on the earth to do this.
c. L2* J S*) I* 3= 2* S*=
(See previous column No.5)
Rev. 20:4. "***Judging***" (the wicked yet to be punished).
d. J L = 3J &?N=)
Rev. 20:1-3 Satan bound on the earth for the 1,000 years with ***no man*** *to deceive*.

AT THE CLOSE

a. 2?:V 3LV)*J *=)J
Rev. 21:2-3,10 (NW) *"...the* ***holy city****,... coming down out of heaven...."*
b. J* ?=) I*JNII* L3?=
John 5:28-29 (NW) ("*…****all*** *those in the memorial tombs will... come out... those who practiced vile things to a* ***resurrection of judgment***."
The wicked are rewarded "*according to their works*."
Rev. 20:5 (NW) ("*The rest of the dead did not come to life* ***until*** *the thousand years were* ***ended***.")
Note: ***until*** not ***during***!
c. J L = :??J*)
Rev. 20:7. He has someone to tempt and deceive now!
d. 2?:V 3LV JNII?N=)*)
Rev. 20:9 (NW) "*And they advanced over the breadth of the* ***earth*** *and* ***encircled*** *the ... beloved* ***city***."
e. 03= : 8N)1 *=L
Rev. 20:11-15, describes the final judgment. At its close the wicked are ***punished*** in the ***lake of fire***.
f. T3 9*) I*)*JLI?V*)
Rev. 20:9 "*fire came down out of heaven and* ***devoured them***."
Malachi 4:1,3 Wicked are burnt and reduced to ***ashes***.

AFTER

a. G I)3J* I*JL?I*)
Rev. 21:5 (NW) "*Look,* ***I am*** *making all things new*."
God will do this, not ***man***!
b. :3L*I :z I* : 3LV
Rev. 21:11-21 The city has walls, streets, gates etc.
Rev. 22:2 The Tree of Life is also restored. (It was a ***real*** tree in Eden)
c. L2* L2I?=* ?0 1?) 3= 3L
Rev. 22:3 (NW) "*But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in* ***it*** *(the* ***city****)*"
d. 1?) T3:: I*J3)* 3= L2* 2?:V 3LV ?= L2* * IL2
Rev.21:2,3 (NW) *"... he will* ***reside with them****,... And God* ***himself*** *will be with them*."
e. L2*V T3:: J 23J 0 ***
Rev.22:4 (NW) *"And they will* ***see his face****..."*
f 2? *J T3:: &* &N3:L
Isa. 65:21-25
g. J && L2 T3:: &* 9*GL
Isa. 66:23 (NW) *"...****sabbath*** *to* ***sabbath*** *all flesh will come in to* ***bow down*** *before me, Jehovah has said*."
h. J3= *L*I= ::V 03=3J2*)
Nahum 1:9 *"...****affliction*** *shall* ***not*** *rive up the* ***second time****."*
- **Redemption Complete!**

Chapter 15
The Trinity

OUR CHALLENGE

Jehovah's Witnesses believe they have the "Truth" because they:
1. Do not believe in the Trinity.
2. Use the name "Jehovah".
3. Teach the central date 1914.
4. Witness from door to door.
5. Respect God's law on blood..
6. Remain neutral in time of war.
7. Keep "clean" from worldly practices and associations etc.

Most Witnesses would put the Trinity doctrine at the top of their list in order of importance. It is the major reason many have joined the Society and greatest doctrinal reason why they remain in the organization even when they have doubts or know that other teachings are in error.

It is the doctrine they feel most confident to defend. They have been taught it is:

- Not scriptural
- Pagan
- Illogical

It is very essential that every Christian understands this subject and how to help their Witness friends.

THE "TRINITY"

The word ***Trinity*** like *Theocracy Millennium* and *Tetragrammaton* does not appear in the Bible.
It strictly means:

TRI - IN - UNITY

Three working in Unity

One can say without hesitation that they believe in the Trinity: "***Three separate Divine Persons working together in Unity***"

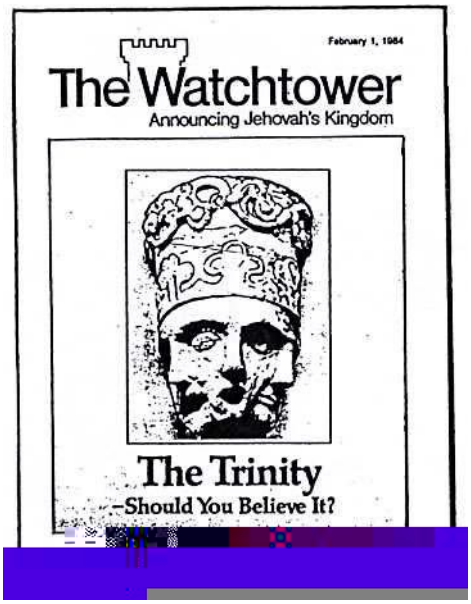
THE "STRAW MAN"

The Society teaches its people that Christians who believe in the Trinity worship a God who is ***one*** person with ***three*** heads! (See the illustrations in Society publications.)

They then proceed to knock down this "straw man" being thankful that they have the "truth".

STEP 1

Firstly emphasis to your Witness friend that you do not believe in that type of Trinity. You believe in three separate persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



THE HOLY SPIRIT

Step 2. The Witness will agree that the Father and Son are ***persons***, but <u>not</u> the Holy Spirit. They understand it is an active force "holy spirit", which is an extension of the Father.

You must now establish the ***Personality*** of the Holy Spirit.
Start with:

Romans 8:26,27,34 (NW) "*..the spirit* ***<u>itself</u>*** ***pleads*** *for us ... is* ***pleading*** *in accord* ***<u>with</u>*** *God... who also* ***pleads for us.***"

The Spirit is pleading ***with*** God between *us* and *God*. He cannot be the Father or an extension of Him, for He is not pleading with Himself. The Spirit must be a separate **person** like Jesus Christ who "***also pleads***" (V.34)

Reinforce this point with:

John 16:13 (NW) *"...what things* ***he*** *<u>hears</u>* ***he*** *will <u>speak</u>."*

The Spirit hears what the Father tells Him. He then in turn "*will guide YOU into all the truth*". Once again this is not the Father talking to Himself!

The Spirit is a separate **person**.

- Note the ***personal pronouns***:

John 16:13 (NW) mentions the Spirit not speaking "*of* ***<u>his</u>*** ***<u>own</u>*** *impulse*". The K.I.T. says "*from* ***<u>himself</u>***".

Acts 13:2 (NW) *"...the* ***holy spirit*** *said....for* ***<u>me</u>*** *for the work to which* ***<u>I</u>*** *have called them.*"

Acts 10: 19,20 (NW) "the spirit said: ... I have dispatched them."

PERSONALITY OF THE SPIRIT

A personality must have:

- **Emotion**
- **Intellect**
- **A Will**

The Holy Spirit has all these:
1. A will: 1 Cor. 12:11
2. Mind and Thoughts. Rom. 8:27
3. Intellect. 1 Cor.2:11
4. Love. Rom. 15:30
5. Fellowship. 2 Cor.13:14
6. Feelings. Eph. 4:30
7. Talk and direct. Acts 8:26,13:2,4
8. Forbid. Acts 16:6,7
9. Teach. John 14:16,18 16:13
10. Comfort. John 14:16,18
11. Author Prophecy. 2 Pet. 1:21
12. Give gifts. 1 Cor. 12: 1 -11

The Holy Spirit can also be:
13. Tempted. Heb. 10:29, Acts 5:9
14. Lied to. Acts 5:3,4
15. Vexed. lsa. 63: 10
16. Despised. Heb. 10:29

Having established that the Holy Spirit is a separate person it is usually best to proceed now to Step 3.

Later you will present:

DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Is God. Acts 5:3,4(NW) *"..to play false* ***to the holy spirit****..? ... You have played false, not to men but to* ***God****."*
2. As Creator. Job 33:4:
(KJV) "*Spirit of God hath* ***made*** *me*"
(NW) "*God's own spirit* ***made*** *me*"
3. Is Eternal. Heb. 9:14
(KJV) "*the* ***eternal*** *Spirit*"
(NW) "***everlasting*** *spirit*"
4. Is Jehovah. 2Cor.3:17 (NW) "*Now* ***Jehovah*** *is the* ***Spirit****,..*"
Matt.28:19(NW) "*baptizing them in the* ***<u>name</u>*** *of the Father, and of the Son and of the* ***holy spirit****." The three share the same* ***<u>name</u>****!* If the Father's name is ***Jehovah*** then the Holy Spirit also shares this name!
5. Can Be Blasphemed Against.
Matt.12:31(NW) "*On this account I say to YOU, Every sort of sin and* ***blasphemy*** *will be forgiven men, but the* ***blasphemy against the spirit*** *will not be forgiven.*"

This last text alone proves the Deity of the Holy Spirit, for one can only blaspheme against a **person** Who is **Divine** or **God**!

GODHEAD

Step 3. At this stage it would be very easy to present to a non Witness that these three separate persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit make up the ***Godhead***..

However none of the three Bible references to ***Godhead*** appear in the New World version translated by the Jehovah's Witnesses:

Acts 17:29 (KJV) "the **Godhead**"
(NW)"*the* ***Divine Being***"
Roms. 1:20(KJV) "*and* ***Godhead***"
(NW) "*and* ***Godship***"
Col. 2:9 (KJV) "*the* ***Godhead***"
(NW) "*the* ***divine quality***"

(Most scholars believe the main reason the New World Bible was produced by the Watchtower Society, was to reinterpret the Bible texts concerning the Trinity doctrine.)

Despite the above read these texts from your Bible and say how you prefer to use the word ***Godhead*** instead of Trinity.

Because of the enormous antipathy the average Witness has towards the "***Trinity***" it is better to only use the word ***Godhead***.

ONE TRUE GOD

Step 4. In your discussion now agree with the Witness that there is only ONE TRUE GOD!:

Isa. 45:5,6,14,(NW) "*I am Jehovah and there is* ***no one else****, With the exception of me there is* ***no God****. ...* ***there is none*** *besides me... I am Jehovah, and there is* ***no one else****... there is* ***no (other) God***."

The Witness will soon clarify this "God" to be the Father whose name is "Jehovah".

ONE GOD - OR TWO?

Step 5. Now introduce the problem of who is Jesus Christ?

- Is He also **God** (Divine)?
- Or a **god** (not Divine) The Bible terms *Sata*

THE NAMES OF GOD

Does God have more than one name? Is ***Jehovah*** the only Divine Name by which God was known?

It is interesting to note what the Bible says:

Exodus 3:13(RSV) "*If.. they ask me, '**What is his name?**' what shall I say to them? God said to Moses, **'I AM WHO I AM'**. And he said, 'Say this to the people of Israel, '**I AM** has sent me to you'.*"

Exodus 6:2,3 (NW) "*And God went on to speak to Moses and to say to him: 'I am **Jehovah**. And I used to appear to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as **God Almighty**, but as respects **my name Jehovah**, I did not make myself known to them..*"

The two above texts introduce us to **three** of God's names.

In the ***Kingdom Interlinear*** (1969) p.15 mention is made of **ten** names of God:

"...he treats of the ten names of God and says:' The ninth [name of God] is a tetragrammaton ..."

SOME NAMES OF GOD

The Hebrew names of people in the Old Testament were used to reveal their character and attributes. The same applied to God:

SHADDAI. = *Almighty* from the verb implying to *display power*.

YHWH. from the tetragrammaton. Translated as

Chapter 18

Jesus is Lord

"JESUS IS LORD!"

A Witness finds it difficult to accept Christ's Deity because:

1 Cor.12:3 (NW) *"... nobody can say: "Jesus is Lord!" except by holy spirit."*

The Greek word for *Lord is "**Kyrios**"*. When the New World Bible "restored" the name *"**Jehovah**" 237* times in its translation, it was usually translated from ***Kyrios***. If the Society had been consistent they would have translated the above verse *"**Jesus is Jehovah!**"* Its context demands it!

It is a great truth which can only be fully understood by a person totally *"led by God's spirit"* However, the Bible teaches in **Rom**. **8:14-17** that those who are "led *by the spirit"* are also *"joint heirs"* with Christ. Most Witnesses believe they do not belong in this "class" who are considered *born again* and *heavenly.* (Discussed in previous chapters)

So these people according to the Bible and the teachings of the Watchtower Society are completely unable to comprehend this truth.

For this reason it is best not to start your discussions with a Witness on the subject of the Trinity. When you do, then start on the Holy Spirit first. Only when they accept Him will they be able to exclaim in all its significance, *"**Jesus is Lord!**"*

1. THE MIGHTY GOD

lsa. 9:6 Jesus is called the ***Mighty God***. A Witness is quick to point out that it does not say ***Almighty*** (see p. 17). However in **lsa, *10:20-2*1** (N W) ***Mighty God*** is the term used for ***Jehovah!*** Study the following texts in various Bible versions:

- Isa. 10:21, Jer. 32:18, Deut. 10:17

2. **JESUS WAS THE CREATOR**

John 1:3(NW) *"**all things came into existence** through him, and apart from him not even one thing came into existence."*

This text is clear Jesus created everything. Nothing that was created was created apart from Him. This means Jesus was not a created being! The Father did not create Him!

- See Heb. 1:2, then Col. 1: 16-17:

3. AN UNCREATED CREATOR?

The Society likes to denigrate Jesus and teach He was a created being, a ***god*** John 1:1 (NW) like the created angels and Satan. John 1:3 (see above) teaches differently and Col. 1: 16,17 is even more emphatic:

Col. 1: 16-17 (NW) "by means of ***him all things were created*** in the heavens and upon the earth ... ***All things have been created through him*** and for him. ***Also he is before all things*** and by means of him ***all things were made*** to exist. " (Emphasis all mine)

Unfortunately Col. 1: 16-17 as above is ***not*** how the ***New World Bible*** reads. Four times the word ***(other)*** has been added in between ***all things***. This word does not appear in the Greek text at all. It is a wicked addition (see Rev.22:18) and it completely alters the great truth concerning Jesus Christ and His deity.

The inference is that Christ was *created* and then He created all ***other*** things. How can trusting Jehovah's Witnesses ever find truth with such a dishonest ***New World Bible?***

Buy a ***The Kingdom Interlinear*** and check how many other Bible texts dealing with the Godhead/Trinity subject have been tampered with.

4. WHO CREATED ADAM?

Gen.2:7(NW) "*And **Jehovah God** proceeded to form the man out of dust from the ground...* "

Was this the ***Father*** who came down in person to planet Earth and formed Adam from the ground or was it ***Jesus?*** From the previous texts it is clear it was ***Jesus***. He was working of course in complete unity with His Father and the Holy Spirit.

- ***Jesus*** is called ***"Jehovah God".***

5. TWO JEHOVAHS?

Are there two ***Jehovahs***? Yes!

Gen. 19:24 "*Then Jehovah made it rain sulphur and fire from Jehovah, from the heavens, upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah.* "

Gen. 3:22 (NW) "*And **Jehovah God** went on to say: 'Here the man has become like one of **us** ...* "

Gen. 11:6,7(NW) "After that ***Jehovah*** said... Come now! Let ***us*** go down"

6. JEHOVAH AND ABRAHAM

Gen.18:1 (NW) "*Afterward **Jehovah** appeared to him...*"

V. 3, "*Then he said: '**Jehovah**, if...*"

V. 13,14, "*Then **Jehovah** said ... Is anything too extraordinary for **Jehovah?***"

V. 22, "*... but as for **Jehovah**, he was still standing before Abraham.*"

V. 33 "*Then **Jehovah** went his way when he had finished speaking...*"

This visit to Abraham was made by ***Jehovah*** Himself! He continually referred to Himself as ***"I"*** as He made decisions and told Abraham he would have a son. This was not an angel!

It was not God the **Father** either:

John 6:46, "*Not that any man has seen the **Father**,*"

John 5:37, "*...the **Father** ...YOU have **neither heard his voice** at any time **nor seen his figure***: "

It was ***Jesus Christ*** and He claimed it was Himself:

John 8:56-58(NKJ) "*Your father **Abraham** rejoiced to see My day,..."*

Then the Jews said to Him, 'You are not yet fifty years old and have You seen Abraham?"

*Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I AM**.*"

7. WHO WAS THE "I AM"?

Jesus claimed ***He*** was! That He was the Deity of Exodus 3:13,14, that ***He*** was that ***Jehovah***! The Jews understood perfectly what Jesus was claiming but they would not accept this so in **John 8:59** they took up stones to stone Him for **blasphemy**, "*calling Himself God"*.

The Watchtower Society will not accept it also, so they have changed the text in their ***New World Bible*** to read ***I have been*** instead of ***I AM***.

Once again you can check how dishonest they have been. Their own ***Kingdom Interlinear*** will show the true translation of the Greek words, *ego eimi* is ***I am***.

In the ***New World Bible*** they do not translate **Exodus 3:13,14** as ***I am*** either (although the ***LXX*** did!) so the truth of **John 8:58** would be lost.

This was the Society's attempt to completely obliterate this truth !

Chapter 19

The Deity of Jesus Christ

THE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST

In the preceding chapters we have been introduced to the Biblical truth that Jesus Christ was fully Divine. The following is a summary of further proofs of His Deity because ***Jesus is***:

1. CALLED GOD

Check the following texts in various Bible versions. The ***New World Bible***, as already discussed is sometimes a biased if not a dishonest translation. It is always wise to check it with an interlinear translation.However, we will continue to quote it wherever possible:

- **Isa. 9:6, John 1:1, 20:28, Rom. 9:5, Titus 2:13, Hebrews 1:8**

2. PART OF THE GODHEAD

Col. 2:9 (NKJ) "*In him dwells all the fullness of the* ***Godhead*** *bodily*;"

3. ETERNAL

Isaiah 9:6 "*Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,* ***Eternal*** *Father...*"

4. KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS

Rev. 17:14 "*These will battle the Lamb, but, because he is Lord of lords, and King of Kings, the Lamb will conquer them.*"

- In 1 Tim. 6:15 Paul applies these titles to ***God***.

5. OMNIPRESENT

Matt. 18:20 "*For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there I am in their midst*."

6. OMNISCIENT

John 21:17 "*Lord, you. know all things;*"

7. OMNIPOTENT

He not only created all things,but the preservation of this creation also depends upon His omnipotence.

- See Col. 1: 16-17, Hebrews 1:3

8. COMMANDED AS DEITY

The prophets all spoke with "*Thus saith the Lord*" but **Jesus** said, "***I*** *say unto you"*

- See **Matt. 5: 28, 32, 34, 39, 44.**

9. TO BE WORSHIPPED

When Jesus was born into this world the Father commanded: Heb.1:6 (NW 1961) *"And let all God's angels* ***worship him.****"*

- **Matt. 4:10,** Only God should be worshipped. Rev.19:10, 22:8,9

10. ACCEPTS PRAYER

John 14:14 The original Greek text (see ***Kingdom Interlinear)*** says, "*If ever anything YOU should ask* ***ME*** *in the name of me this I shall do*" (Bold print emphasis mine)

- **Acts 7:59, Rev. 22:20** are some examples of prayers to Jesus.

11. JEHOVAH

Many references to ***Jehovah*** in the Old Testament are identified as **Jesus** in the New Testament:

Isa. 40: 10 *rewards* **Rev. 22:12**
Isa. 44:6 *first and last* **Rev. 22:13**
Ps. 102:24 *laid foundations* **Heb.1:10**
Isa. 43:11 *only Savior* **Acts 4:12**
Dent. 32:3,4 *the Rock* **1 Cor. 10:4**
Isa. 45:21,23 *every knee* **Phil.2:10**
Ps. 68:18 *ascended* **Eph. 4:7,8**

QUESTIONS

Your witness friends will have many questions. In a publication this size it is impossible to give all the answers, but these may be helpful:

a. Revelation 3:14

Jesus was *"the beginning of the creation by God*"(NW) The word for *beginning (arche)* also means *origin* or *Beginner.* The NW has dishonestly translated ***by*** *God* when the Greek clearly is ***of*** *God* (see **K.I. T.**)

Rev. 3:14(NKJV) *says: "...the Beginning* of *the creation of god"*

Jesus as the Creator, John 1:3 was the One who began God's creation. Everything that was created, was created *by Him.*

b. Colossians 1:15

Jesus is *"the first born of all creation."* In the Bible ***first born*** does not mean ***born first****:*
Ps. 89:20,27 David the eighth son of Jesse is called first born. See also:
Ex. 4:22 Esau was born before Israel.
Jer.31:9 Manasseh before Ephraim.
Col.1:18(KIT) shows *first born* meant the one *holding first place - a* fitting title for Christ as Creator and Sustainer of the Universe.

c. Proverbs 8:23.

"Jehovah himself ***produced*** *me..."* *The* Hebrew word *Qana* translates ***possessed*** not *produced.*
Proverbs 8 is speaking about Wisdom There was never a time Jehovah did not ***possess*** Wisdom. He did not have to ***produce*** it. Likewise there was never a time He did not possess Jesus, the Creator and master worker.

d. John 1:1.

Jesus could not be with God and at the same time be God? A person can be with a human being and at the same time be a human being. The emphasis is that Jesus is of the same *essence* as the Father, fully Divine.

e. John 14:28.

"My Father is ***greater*** *than I."* How can the two be equal? A married couple are both equally *human* (in ***essence),*** but the Bible says the husband is greater (in ***rank)*** than the wife. This does not make the wife inferior or less *human.* Father and Son are equally *Divine.* Jesus has:
Matt.28:18 All ***authority*** given Him.
John 5:22 *All* ***judging*** given Him.
John 5:23. ***Honor*** *just as* the Father.
John 1:3. He ***created all things.***

f. Mark 13:32.

The Father knew the time of His coming but not the Son. How could they be equal, and Jesus omniscient?

Was it Jesus ***could*** *not know* or ***chose*** *not to know?* See Acts 1:6,7.

g. Habukkuk 1:12.

God can not die, but Jesus did? Jesus had a *dual nature.* He was both the Son of Man and the Son of God. It was His *humanity* that died. His *divinity* could not die. Jesus said that He had power to lay down His life and power to take it up again, John 10: 18. He also said that if his body temple was destroyed that *"in three days I* ***will raise it up***." John 2:19-21.

h. John 17:3.

Salvation is knowing the *only true God* ***and*** *Jesus Christ.* Jesus is separate from the *only true God?*
Acts 4:12 says *"there is no salvation in anyone else"* than Jesus Christ. He must therefore to be a member of the *only true God* or *Godhead*

DOES IT MATTER?

The Watchtower Society teaches that Jesus was *impaled on a torture stake* and not crucified on a "T" cross with a cross beam.

The cross was a pagan symbol from antiquity. It was certainly a *"cross of shame* " (See below)

However, the Society considers believing Jesus died in this manner is to believe another pagan doctrine "*like the Trinity*".

To them it is a big issue and one that has to be answered as it effectively isolates Witnesses from all other Christians and churches.

However, all the evidence from:

• Bible

• History and **• Archaeology**

does not support the Society's claim:

THE BIBLE EVIDENCE

The Bible does not state clearly which type of cross it was, but the evidence favors a "T" cross:

s

a. Inscription Above Christ's Head.

• **Matt. 27:37** (NW) It was posted *"**above his head**"*.

• **John 19:19, 20** It was written in ***Hebrew, Latin*** and ***Greek***.

If He was on a stake, the sign in the three languages would have been too big to be posted *"**above his head**"* between his up stretched arms. It would have been posted *"**above his hands**"* or *"**body**"* and the Bible would have said exactly that!

b. The Nails in His Hands.

• **John 20:25(NW)** *"Unless I see in*

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Chapter 22

The Sabbath of Jehovah

THE SABBATH OF JEHOVAH

Exodus 20:8-1l(NW) *"Remembering the sabbath day to hold it sacred ... for in six days **Jehovah** made the heavens and the earth ... and he proceeded to **rest** on the seventh day. That is why **Jehovah blessed** the **sabbath day** and proceeded to make it sacred."*

Genesis 2:1-3 states Jehovah ***rested, blessed*** and made the Sabbath ***sacred*** at Creation after He had finished the work of creating.

Who was this ***"Jehovah"?*** The Bible tells us it was ***Jesus Christ***! (See Chapter 18)

LORD OF THE SABBATH

This is why the Creator, when He lived on earth claimed He was "***Lord even of the Sabbath***".

Mark 2:27,28 *"The sabbath came into existence for the sake of man, and not man for the sake of the sabbath, hence the Son of man is **Lord even of the Sabbath**."*

Jesus was saying He made man first and then gave him the Sabbath for his benefit and well being.

When your Witness friend has discovered the truth about ***Jehovah*** they are thrilled to learn about His Sabbath. They are ready to accept Christ's invitation, "*If you love me **keep my commandments**."* But they will keep the Sabbath not because they feel they have to, but because they love the One who created it, rested, blessed and made it sacred!

SABBATH THROUGH HISTORY

The Sabbath was instituted in Eden. It will continue throughout all eternity. Present this study to your friends and use the chart below:

THE SABBATH REMAINS!

Hebrews 4:9 (NW) "So *there remains a sabbath* (Gr. σαββατισμοσ) *resting for the people of God"*

The word σαββατισμοσ means keeping a weekly Sabbath. **Vv. 10,11** warn of disobedience for those who do not rest "*just as God did"* which in **V.4** says *"God **rested** on the **seventh day** from all his works."*

When the Society teaches how nine of the Ten Commandments are given as Christian laws they purposely ignore this above passage and all the Bible evidence of Christians who kept the Sabbath after Christ's death:

- Luke 23:54-56, Acts 13:14, 42-44, 16:13, 17:2, 18:4, 11.

ANSWERS TO OBJECTIONS

a. Meetings in Synagogues. On two occasions, Paul held Christian meetings on the Sabbath which were not in Jewish synagogues:

Acts 13:44(NW) *"The next **Sabbath** nearly all the* city *gathered together to hear the word of Jehovah."*

Acts 16:13(NW) Held *beside a river.*

b. Col. 2:16,17. The sabbath days which were a *"shadow of things to come"* were the Jewish holy days of the ***ceremonial law*** such as the Passover etc. which pointed forward to Christ. The seventh-day Sabbath was different, as it was instituted before man sinned and the sacrificial system commenced.

c. Acts 15:28,29 The Sabbath was not mentioned in this list, but lying, killing, stealing etc. was not either! The Ten Commandment law was not under discussion.

THE DAYS OF CREATION

The Society teaches that each day of Creation and the Sabbath was a period of 7,000 years.

The Bible teaches these days were not long periods of time:

1. **God Spoke Everything into Existence.** See Heb. 11:3, Ps. 33:6,9.
2. **The Days were a Period of Light and a Period of Darkness.** *"the evening and the morning"* made up each of the ***days***.
3. **Vegetation without Sunlight for 7,000 years?** It was created on the 3rd Day, - the Sun on the 4th Day!
4. **Vegetation Had No Pollination by Insects for 21,000 years**? Insects were created on the 6th Day
5. **A Mature Creation.** Everything was spoken into existence fully mature *vegetation bearing seed.*
6. **Six Work Days then Seventh is the Sabbath.** Ex.20:8-11 links this with the Creation days.
7. **Sun Divides a Literal Day.** *"to make a division between the day and the night." Gen*. 1: 14 (NW)
8. **God is Not Still Resting.** In Heb. 4:4 (NW) *"And God **rested** on the seventh day."*
9. **The Events of the Sixth Day.** All the events could have taken place in a 24 hour day, ie.:

Early Morning. Animals spoken into existence. Adam formed and created.

Mid Morning. The animals named in a few hours.

Mid Afternoon. Eve created. Then all would have been completed before the Sabbath which began at sun set.

10. **Day in the Bible when it has a Numeral in front of it, is Always a 24 Hour Day.** There are no exceptions!



Chapter 23

The Society and Medical Procedures

A TRAGIC RECORD

Some of the doctrinal changes of the Watchtower Society, are harmless. Some like the ***Men of Sodom*** have even been amusing. (Eight times the Society changed its mind as to whether they will be resurrected!)

However, when it comes to ***Medical Procedures*** the Society's record is a tragic one involving its members in untold misery and death.

VACCINATIONS? - NO!

The earliest Society mention of vaccinations seems to be recorded in the ***Golden Age***, Feb. 4, 1931 p. 293:

*"**Vaccination** is a direct violation of the everlasting covenant that God made with Noah after the flood"*

A few years later the ***Golden Age***, April 24, 1935 stated:

"*... As vaccination is a direct injection of animal matter in the bloodstream,* ***vaccination*** *is a direct violation of the law of Jehovah God"*

Many died as a result of this direction, especially children in epidemics such as diphtheria.

VACCINATIONS? - YES!

What made the change? A.H. Macmillan, one of the Society's much loved leaders, gives a clue in his book, ***Faith on the March***, *pp.* 188-9:

"...all of us who visit our foreign branches are vaccinated or we stay at home."

After World War 2 the Society was growing rapidly in foreign lands. In order for the leaders to attend assemblies in these places they had to be vaccinated or they were not allowed to attend.

Despite the deaths of faithful members or their children who were refused vaccinations, the leaders had them! Eventually ***The Watchtower***, (1952) p. 764 was asked by a reader:

"Is vaccination a violation of God's law..?"

Then came the admission:

"... all objection to ***vaccination*** on *Scriptural ground seems to be* lacking."

Apologies for all the needless deaths? - - None!

ORGAN TRANSPLANTS

In **The Watchtower,** Nov.15, 1967 p.702-4 the question was asked if there was any Scriptural objection to **organ transplants?**

The answer: **It was Cannibalistic!**

"Those who submit to such operations are thus living off the flesh of another human. That is cannibalistic."

This was reinforced by **Awake,** June 8, 1968, p.21:

"There are those, such as the Christian witnesses of Jehovah, who consider ***all*** *transplants between humans as cannibalism;"* (Emphasis theirs)

As a result of these statements Jehovah's Witnesses refused **all** transplants. Some needing heart or kidney transplants needlessly died. Others continued to needlessly suffer.

In **The Watchtower,** March 15, 1980, pp. 17,18 appeared an apology for the 1975 date. Then on page 31 the question was asked:

"Should congregation action be taken if a baptized Christian accepts a human **organ transplant,** *such as of a cornea or a kidney?"*

The answer: **It was not Cannibalism!**

"...organ transplants *are different from* **cannibalism** *since the 'donor' is not killed ... The congregational judicial committee would not take disciplinary action if someone accepted an* **organ transplant.**"

An apology for the needless deaths and suffering? No!

BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS

Like vaccinations and organs transplants, the Society's opposition to blood transfusions depends upon its interpretation of scripture.

After the Flood God allowed man to eat meat but ***not to eat blood.*** This was repeated for the Jews in the Law of Moses and confirmed for Christians when that Law was under review at Jerusalem. See Gen. 9:4, Lev. 17:13-15, Acts 15:1-6,20.

Today, faithful Christians and Jews still do ***not eat blood.*** However the Society interprets this as **"*not have a blood transfusion*!"**

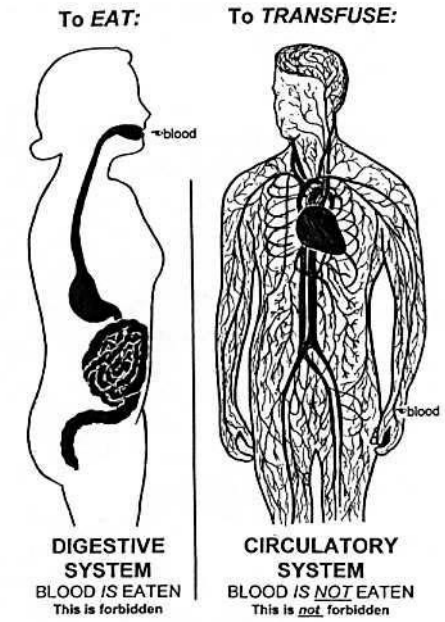
TWO DIFFERENT PROCESSES

To EAT:

Food is taken into the body by the mouth, masticated and swallowed. It is then ***eaten, changed*** and absorbed into the body. If this happened to blood it would destroy it as such.

To TRANSFUSE

The blood is taken into the body by the veins. It is ***not eaten,*** but remains ***unchanged*** as blood with its corpuscles to fight disease and carry oxygen to the brain.



OF BEASTS AND FOWLS ONLY

Lev. 17:13-15 Blood of ***beasts and fowls*** only was forbidden. It did not include ***fish***, strangled in nets, which they ate but did not bleed.

EATING MEAT - AND BLOOD!

Meat Science*, (1974) pp. 132-3: "Even with effective bleeding only about* ***50%*** *of the total blood is removed..."*

Strict Jews kosher kill their meat then soak it in brine, and squeeze the blood out. Adventists prefer the bloodless diet of Eden. However, Witnesses ***eat*** meat oozing ***blood****!*

WHEN?

Yes! how long will it be before the Society will eventually admit:

"... all objection ***to blood transfusions*** *on scriptural ground seem to be lacking."?*

Chapter 24
Attitudes

ATTITUDES

The attitudes of the Watchtower Society today concerning Birthdays, Mother's Day, Christmas and many other teachings were greatly influenced by Judge Rutherford.

J. F. RUTHERFORD 1917-1942

Rutherford became the second president of the Society after Pastor Russell died in 1916. He was not Russell's choice of a successor. Men he seized control of the Society he caused a division in the organization.

Almost immediately he began to change Russell's doctrines and wean the people's affection for him. It is estimated that in a ten year period he altered 148 of his teachings.

Many of Rutherford's new doctrines and attitudes reflected his own personality and life style:

***Witnesses of Jeltovah**, pp.* 45-50 tells how his wife Mary and son Malcolm left him and went to live in Los Angeles. One of the reasons given was his *"choleric and self righteous temperament and what was quite evidently a serious case* of *alcoholism*".

Rutherford is also described in all his *self-righteousness,* driving expensive Cadillacs and living an extravagant life style in the Beth-Sarim mansion:

"The Judge pointed his finger at the doomed world of decadent people while himself enjoying fine liquor, quality cigars, and the company of female traveling companions."

BIRTHDAYS & MOTHER'S DAY

Under Russell's leadership the people had enjoyed celebrating such occasions. But now Rutherford's publications conderimed them.

Could the reasons be?:

1. Attitude to Pastor Russell.

Russell's followers had loved him and were reticent to give up his teachings. He was a real "cult figure", so to counter this, Rutherford began to oppose this as *"creature worship"*.

2. Attitude to His Family.

After Rutherford's wife and only son left him, Birthdays and Mother's Days would bring him little joy.

3. His "Self-Righteousness".

Teaching these *days* were *pagan* suited Rutherford's nature and it also gave the members a feeling of self-righteousness. ***Yearbook 1975**,p. 147:*

"... we had never known before they were pagan... we felt we were privileged to know things that others were ignorant about. "

Scriptural support for it? There is none. To argue birthdays should not be celebrated because *"the pagans did"* would be to stop worshipping, praying, etc. because the pagans did!

CHRISTMAS

Christmas was celebrated by the Society until Rutherford in 1926, also declared it *"pagan" and* ***"creature worship".*** As his opposition to the Deity of Christ grew these words took on a new meaning:

- ***"Creature"*** Jesus was only a created being or *creature*.
- ***"Worship"*** Jesus was <u>not</u> to receive *worship*. Christmas carols like, "*O Come Let Us Adore Him."* were now offensive to these new beliefs. Previously the 1925 ***Manna*** *book on* ***"December 25"*** read:

"Although we cannot agree that this is the proper day for celebrating the birth of our dear Redeemer,... we may properly enough join with all whose hearts are in the ***attitude*** *of love and appreciation toward God and toward the Saviour."*

PAGAN CUSTOMS

The Society has no problems with other pagan customs such as wedding rings; the names for the days and months of the year; starting the day at midnight instead of the Biblical sunset and holding worship services on the day dedicated to the Sun god! Why such inconsistent attitudes?

GOVERNMENTS

Rutherford's anti-government attitude led him to reinterpret the ***Higher Powers*** in 1929 to mean *Jehovah God and Jesus Christ* rather than *worldly rulers and governors*.

Even after this *new light* was reversed in 1962, some of the anti-government attitudes still persist:

HONOURING PEOPLE

The Truth Shall Make You Free, *p.312* records:

"In 1929 the clear light broke forth... that Jehovah God and Christ Jesus, rather than worldly rulers and governors, are The Higher Powers. "

It was interpreted that to stand in honor of such a person was to ***worship*** them. Jehovah's Witnesses refused then to stand in ***honor*** *of* Royalty or Heads of State.

SALUTING FLAGS

The Society also contends that to salute a flag is *"an* ***act of worship*** *in direct violation of the first and second* of *the <u>Ten Commandments</u>". **Awake!**,* September 22, 1978.

The Society fails to distinguish between ***worship*** and ***honor*** . *The Bible commands Christians to honor:*

1Peter 2:17(NW) "Honor*[men]* of *all sorts, ...have* ***honor*** *for the king."*

To ***honor*** the king one would ***<u>stand</u>;*** to ***honor*** his flag one would ***<u>salute</u>*** but to ***worship*** one would ***<u>kneel</u>.***

IN TIME OF WAR

Seventh-day Adventists believe in time of war, Christians should ***not kill*** but should try to save life.

Matt. 8:5-10 Jesus healed the servant of a Roman soldier. He did not refuse because they were part of the army.

Witnesses would do well to follow the attitude of Jesus.

GIVING TO CHARITIES

The Society discourages its members from supporting any charities other than its own organization.

Witnesses can receive help from other charities but not give it.

Some years ago an Adventist missionary pilot saved the life of a leading Witness missionary in Papua New Guinea. However, Witnesses are still not allowed to donate towards this life saving work.

A former Witness observed, *"We used to be able to accept help from the charities of Babylon the Great, but not assist them!"*

This attitude is not the ***Golden Rule*** that Jesus taught.

Appendix

"THE TIME IS AT HAND"
(What was foretold for 1914)

1914; and that that date will be the farthest limit of the rule of imperfect men. And be it observed, that if this is shown to be a fact firmly established by the Scriptures, it will prove:—

Firstly, That at that date the Kingdom of God, for which our Lord taught us to pray, saying, "Thy Kingdom come," will have obtained full, universal control, and that it will then be "set up," or firmly established, in the earth.

Secondly, It will prove that he whose right it is thus to take the dominion will then be present as earth's new Ruler; and not only so, but it will also prove that he will be present for a considerable period before that date; because the overthrow of these Gentile governments is directly caused by his dashing them to pieces as a potter's vessel (Psa. 2:9; Rev. 2:27), and establishing in their stead his own righteous government.

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Thirdly, It will prove that some time before the end of A. D. 1914 the last member of the divinely recognized Church of Christ, the "royal priesthood," "the body of Christ," will be glorified with the Head; because every

"MILLIONS NOW LIVING "
(The Resurrection to be in 1925)

less unto you and ye shall return every man unto his possessions and we shall return every

end in the fall of the year 1925, at which time the type ends and the great antitype must begin. What, then, should we expect to take place? In the type there must be a full restoration; therefore the great antitype must mark the beginning of restoration of all things. The chief thing to be restored is the human race to life; and since other Scriptures definitely fix the fact that there will be a resurrection of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and other faithful ones of old, and that these will have the first favor, we may expect 1925 to witness the return of these faithful men of Israel from the condition of death, being resurrected and fully restored to perfect humanity and made the visible legal represen-

"THE TIME IS AT HAND"
(What was foretold for 1914)

SACKCLOTH

"Sackcloth" is a symbol of reproach and mourning when applied to God's people: "For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me. When I wept, and chastened my soul with fasting, that was to my reproach. I made sackcloth also my garment; and I became a proverb to them." (Ps. 69:9-11) Isaiah represented God's anointed people on earth and he prophesied in sackcloth. (Isa. 20:2) *The*

Society, for forty years emphasized the fact that would witness the establishment of God's king and the complete glorification of the church. Du that period of forty years God's people on earth carrying on a witness work, which work was shadowed by Elijah and John the Baptist. A the Lord's people looked forward to 1914 with j expectation. When that time came and passed was much disappointment, chagrin and mour and the Lord's people were greatly in reproach